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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/752,809 | 12/27/2000 | J. Tracy Weed | NTI-020 | 1531 |
| 29477 7590 01/15/2008 BEVER HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP 2099 GATEWAY PLACE SUITE 320 SAN JOSE, CA 95110 | | | EXAMINER FISHER, MICHAEL J | |
| | | | ART UNIT 3629 | PAPER NUMBER |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| 09752809 | 12/27/2000 | WEED ET AL. | NTI-020 |

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EXAMINER

Michael J. Fisher

| ART UNIT | PAPER |
|----------|----------|
| 3629 | 20080108 |

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Commissioner for Patents

The reply brief has been noted. The examiner will further note that the limitation claiming the facilitator has been addressed, from the final rejection, Page 3 "...there would inherently need to be a facilitator as there would, of necessity, be someone to lead the organization giving the subsidies." As can be seen, the examiner was giving the word "facilitator" a broad meaning, as is required. The facilitator could, for instance, be the director of the agency directing the subsidies. While the inventor can be his own lexicographer, the examiner must give any usual meanings to words already currently in use.

[Signature]
JAMES G. HARRIS
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNICAL FIELD: 3800